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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Resistance Potential in the USSR	DATE DISTR.	2 July 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Comments:

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1. Benderites in paragraph 1, page 1, should read Banderites.
2. Soviet labor laws dealing with unjustified absence from work differ from the information given in paragraph 7, page 1. See, for example, Vladimir Gsovski, Soviet Civil Law; Private Rights and their Background under the Soviet Regime... (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Law School, 1948), I, 816-817; II, 539-541.

ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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STATE	X#	ARMY	X#	NAVY	X#	AIR	X#	FBI	X#	AEC							
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COUNTRY USSR**DATE DISTR.** 25 May 1954**SUBJECT** Resistance Potential in the USSR**NO. OF PAGES** 3**DATE OF INFORMATION****REFERENCES:****PLACE ACQUIRED**

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Benderites operating as a partisan band in the Carpathians since World War II.

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the local populace there was extremely anti-Soviet and constantly harrassed Soviet troops. Soviet soldiers' being killed and suspended from artillery pieces in this area.

2.

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3.

Although robbery and thievery were prevalent throughout the USSR, this could not be termed passive resistance.

4.

5. The Soviet population could not participate in free trade. Politically, they had no choice but to follow any wish of the Communist Party.

6. There was no mail censorship within the USSR.

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only mail entering or leaving the USSR was censored.

7. The Soviet citizen was legally bound to countless regulations and laws which restricted his entire life. He could not openly criticize the government, could not move without permission, could not own land, could not enter into a business, etc. If a person reported to his place of work 30 minutes late without a medical excuse he was forgiven the first time. The second time he was automatically sentenced to six months in prison plus a fine of 25% of his salary for six months. On occasions the prison term was suspended but the fine never was.

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8. The Soviet citizen had no choice; he could only accept conditions. No one dared express his views outside his family group for fear of being reported. Consequently, it was impossible to know the true attitude of the people.
9. [redacted] the Communist Party had grown constantly since 1917 and was continuing to gain in strength. [redacted] most of the youth of the Soviet Union were completely indoctrinated with Communism. Those that were not indoctrinated accepted Communism reluctantly but without resistance.
10. [redacted]
11. The Soviet population generally disliked the Jews but [redacted] no [redacted] violent acts against them. Jews were disliked because they usually occupied positions of some importance, were obsequious, and generally better off than the average Russian.
12. Military desertions were unheard of within the USSR. Desertion was punishable by death. Desertions outside the boundaries of the USSR were more frequent [redacted]
13. The civilian populace was dissatisfied with the low standard of living, with high prices, insufficient food, and difficult working conditions. The peasants were especially bitter because they could not own land and produce their own crops.
14. [redacted] there were thousands of hungry people in [redacted] Rostov in 1951. Beggars were everywhere. They crowded around churches and market places by the thousands. Hungry children clothed in rags searched garbage cans for food.
15. [redacted] the Communist Party had been very successful in indoctrinating most of the Soviet youth. A young person was exposed to Communist propaganda in school, in the factory, the movies, and the army, and he believed these teachings. Only when he entered the army and was stationed outside the USSR did he realize that perhaps he had been duped. In the army the military political officers constantly harangued the soldier so that he would not waver from Communist teachings.
16. From late 1951 to early 1952 [redacted] Georgians were being removed from the Georgian SSR and resettled either in Siberia or Sakhalin. [redacted] The Tbilisi railroad, which ran through Rostov, was completely devoid of traffic for about 10 days. It was rumored that all traffic from this railroad had been sidetracked to help in the resettlement program.
17. [redacted]
18. [redacted]
19. [redacted] the Church and religious groups were not a source of resistance to the regime. [redacted] the Church was well controlled by the government, even though services were well attended by the older generation and the women.

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20. [redacted] practically all the people would support the Allied Forces if the known MVD low-level agents, local Communist Party leaders, and MVD officials had been disposed of. [redacted] the peasant farmers would give a 100% support to the Allied Forces. A large number of former soldiers who had served beyond the borders of the USSR could be counted on to support such a movement, in addition to a large number of workers. [redacted] peasant farmers would help liquidate security force personnel if aided by Allied personnel or in the event Allied Forces were approaching.

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